

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
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O R 201055Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6712

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 0934

USIA FOR IEU/PASS TO PAO FERNANDEZ
STATE FOR CU/EE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL RO
SUBJECT: COOPERATION WITH ROMANIAN TV

1. IN A MEETING TODAY WITH AMB, DCM, AND IO, ROMTV DIRECTOR GENERAL POTOP AND DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS LAZAR EXPRESSED HOPE THAT PAO FERNANDEZ WOULD RETURN FROM WASHINGTON WITH INDICATION AS TO HOW ROMANIANS CAN PURSUE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND EXCHANGES OF PROGRAMS WITH AMERICAN COMMERCIAL AND PUBLIC TELEVISION NETWORKS. POTOP AND LAZAR PLACED MORE EMPHASIS THAN WE BELIEVE WARRANTED ON NEED FOR U.S. SIDE TO DO LEGWORK IN MAKING CONTACTS WITH AMERICAN TELEVISION OFFICIALS FOR ROMTV. THUS, AMBASSADOR BARNES ASSURED THEM THAT PAO FERNANDEZ WOULD CONTACT THREE MAJOR AMERICAN COMMERCIAL NETWORKS AND PBS TO SEE WHAT INTEREST EXISTS FOR COOPERATION EITHER ON A COMMERCIAL OR NON-COMMERCIAL BASIS, BUT STRESSED THAT THE BASIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR PURSUING THESE CONTACTS RESTS WITH ROMANIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND ROMANIAN LIBRARY IN NEW YORK.

2. LAZAR MENTIONED THAT ROMTV HAS SHIPPED SEVERAL FILMS TO ROMANIAN LIBRARY IN NEW YORK AND HAS INFORMED ACTING LIBRARY DIRECTOR THAT PAO FERNANDEZ WILL CALL TO ADVISE WHOM SHOULD BE CONTACTED IN EACH NETWORK TO ARRANGE SCREENINGS. LAZAR ALSO SAID ROMTV SHIPPED SEVERAL FILMS TO PBS DIRECTLY LAST FALL FOR CONSIDERATION, BUT HAS NOT YET EVEN RECEIVED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT THEY HAVE ARRIVED.

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3. REQUEST PAO FERNANDEZ MAKE CONTACT WPQHSQHREE COMMERCIAL NETWORKS AS WELL AS WITH COHEN AT PBS TO DETERMINE IF THEY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN VIEWING THESE ROMANIAN FILMS, AND THEN ADVISE ROMANIAN LIBRARY IN NEW YORK AND PLOSCARU AT ROMANIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

4. POTOP ALSO AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO TV CO-OP THIS SPRING OR SUMMER. HE TOLD US HE WILL HAVE DEFINITE REPLY BY MID-MARCH AND SAID THAT IF APPROVAL GRANTED WE CAN BEGIN DISCUSSIONS OF SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED BY ROMANIAN FILM TEAM IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER. POTOP TALKED IN TERMS OF A FILM CREW OF TWO OR THREE PERSONS. ROMTV WILL PAY INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION; WE WILL COVER INTERNAL COSTS.

5. POTOP AGREED AS WELL TO RECONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF NOMINATING ROMANIAN TV JOURNALIST FOR 76-77 NIEMAN FELLOWSHIP. HE SAID HE WOULD GIVE US DEFINITE REPLY, AFTER CONSULTING WITH MFA AND MINED, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FOR CU/EE: PLEASE ADVISE CUT-OFF DATE FOR NOMINATIONS FOR NIEMAN FELLOWSHIP.
BARNES

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